

**DDRS ADVISORY COUNCIL****5-7-14**

**PRESENT:** Teresa Grosse, Chris St. Paul, Melody Cooper, Kim Opsahl, Nicole Norvell, Leslie Jones, John Dickerson, Cathy Robinson, Angie Amos, Dawn Downer, Richard Wherry, Betty Williams, Theresa Kolszar, Melody Cooper and Jill Ginn

**FACILITATOR:** Julie Reynolds

**RECORDER:** Robin M. Stearns, Administrative Secretary II, Provider Relations

ISSUE	DISCUSSION	ACTION
DDRS Update	<p>Nicole provided updates on a variety of topics relating to changes occurring within this administration. With these changes, we are starting to see a cultural shift in the community. Several examples of these changes were shared with the council. The number one goal of Secretary Minnott continues to be improving customer service while developing and improving programs that are sustainable. These goals continue to be used in all aspects of decision making. While the first year has been utilized in looking at the cultural piece, the next phase will revolve around building sustainable systems and focusing on creative ways to allow individuals to be independent. We are also looking at ways to develop a single application for all services. Discussion was held regarding different ways this can be communicated to the consumers and their families. Looking down the road at bigger policy changes, we have to look at how it directly affects providers, consumers, families, etc. The second year for this administration will be focused more on external changes.</p> <p>Nicole shared information regarding the Secretary's recent presentation the year in review involving measurable goals and performance expectations. A primary focus for year 2 will be improving "hand offs" between agencies. We must ensure we are working collectively together towards the best outcome for the consumers. One area of focus for the next 12 months will be to incorporate VR councilors into the school systems in order to begin the transition process earlier. A lengthy discussion was held regarding current and future VR restructuring towards this goal.</p>	Council members extended their thanks and offers of support as needed.
Open Door Concept	<p>A tremendous amount of time and effort has been focused on determining a vision for what the local offices should be doing. We are now looking at needs versus services. The intake coordinator has very specific timelines and we are looking at 45 days for the level of care to be completed in order to establish what the needs of the individual are. Another change that has been implemented is we are no longer asking families to provide the confirmation of diagnosis, rather the BDDS staff is getting releases from families in order we can obtain this information. We are getting back to more of a service model for the group homes.</p> <p>Julie provided an update on the transition of individuals from the waiting list. Of the 2,492 individuals on the wait list; 1,780 are in the case management process. To date, approximately 200 individuals in are the Medicaid process. 150 individuals were target in April and an additional 150 will be targeted in May.</p> <p>The Hickory Creek facility in Gaston, Indiana, voluntarily closed and 62 individuals were recently transitioned.</p>	<p>Informational.</p> <p>Julie noted the level of cooperation during these transitions was incredible. The last individual moved on April 30<sup>th</sup>.</p>
First Steps Update	As of May 1 <sup>st</sup> the vender changes have been completed in the northern part of the state. Discussion was held regarding communication with families during this change.	The transition has gone smoothly, except for some minor technology issues which have been resolved.
BRS Update	Information was shared regarding the annual updates provided in January to the appropriate Federal agencies. The required 2015 Plan is due by June 30 <sup>th</sup> and is currently out for review and comments. Additional discussion was held on recent rules and process changes.	Informational.
Next Meeting	The next Advisory Council meeting will be held on June 4 <sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.	Informational.